

BIO: Carol L. Folt

Carol L. Folt is a highly experienced leader, internationally recognized life scientist and award-winning teacher. She most recently led the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill – one of the nation's most distinguished and research-intensive universities – from 2013 to 2019.

Folt brings broad executive and leadership experience across the academy, including arts and sciences, professional schools and academic medicine. At UNC, she set a bold course for the university's future by spearheading a historic capital campaign, raising billions of dollars; building the school's first-ever strategic plan in collaboration with every school and department; fighting to make college education accessible and affordable; and inspiring thousands of Tar Heels to embrace the arts and sustainability. Under her leadership, UNC was repeatedly named the No. 1 value in public higher education, surpassed \$1 billion in annual research expenditures for the first time in school history (No. 5 in the nation overall) and set admissions records every year. At both UNC and Dartmouth College, Folt earned a reputation for always placing students at the center, advancing academic excellence and innovation, setting ambitious goals, prioritizing shared governance and focusing on the future.

Folt went to UNC from Dartmouth, where she served in various leadership roles, including as interim president, provost, dean of faculty and Dartmouth Professor of Biological Sciences. An Akron, Ohio, native, Folt earned her bachelor's degree in aquatic biology and a master's degree in biology from the University of California, Santa Barbara. She received her doctorate in ecology from the University of California, Davis, and did postdoctoral work at the W.K. Kellogg Biological Station of Michigan State University.

Folt is married to David Peart, an emeritus professor of biological sciences at Dartmouth. They have two adult children, Noah and Tessa.